

South Carolina
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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May 1, 2006

MEDICAID BULLETIN

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TO: Physicians, Hospitals, Chiropractors, Optometrists, Podiatrists, and Lab/X-ray Providers

SUBJECT: Medicaid Updates

- I. 2006 Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Update**
- II. Laboring Epidural Policy Revision**
- III. Out of State Service's Policy Revision and Clarification**

The following changes are being made to the Physician Services program manual effective May 1, 2006.

I. 2006 Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Update

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) manual for Physicians, Laboratories, and Other Medical Professionals Provider has been updated to conform to the 2006 Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) as promulgated and published by the American Medical Association.

II. Laboring Epidural Policy Revision

The policy for billing a continuous laboring epidural for a planned vaginal delivery that subsequently becomes a caesarean section has been updated to reflect the correct CPT coding for the procedure. When a vaginal delivery

becomes a caesarean section and the epidural catheter remains in place for the caesarean section, you must bill for the vaginal delivery anesthesia code (01967) in addition to the anesthesia add on code of 01968 for the caesarean procedure. Refer to the 2006 physicians fee schedule for reimbursement information for these codes.

III. Out of State Services Policy Revisions and Clarification

The policy for out of state services has been revised. All services to beneficiaries, regardless of age, rendered outside of the South Carolina Medical Service Area (SCMSA) require prior approval. The service area includes all of South Carolina, and regions of North Carolina and Georgia that are within 25 miles of the South Carolina border. The only exception to this policy is for emergency services as outlined in the manual. Also, SCDHHS reserves the right to determine, on the basis of medical advisement, that the needed medical services, or necessary supplementary resources, are more readily available in the state where the service is to occur. Please refer to the Physician Services provider manual for further instructions on out-of-state services.

A copy of the manual is located on our website at www.scdhhs.gov.

Please contact your Physician Services Program Manager at (803) 898-2660 if you have any questions about the information contained in this bulletin. Thank you for your continued support in the South Carolina Medicaid program.

/s/

Robert M. Kerr
Director

RMK/bgw

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<http://www.dhhs.state.sc.us/dhhsnew/QLEbulletins.asp>